

NSC BRIEFING

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BACKGROUND PIECE ON MILITARY SITUATION NORTH KOREA

- I. Communist forces in North Korea total about 655,000 as opposed to about 674,000 ROK and UN forces in South Korea. (Total UN is 61,000, including 55,496 US; 5,728 others.)
 - A. North Korea's army of 338,000 greatly outnumbered by South Korea's 613,000 troops.
 - B. However, five armies of ChiCom troops now in Korea total about 315,000.
 - C. There are five other ChiCom armies (250,000 troops) just over the border in Manchuria which could reach Korean frontlines within two weeks.
- II. Since the armistice in 1953, North Korean military power has been steadily increased.
 - A. North Korea now has 445 MIG jet fighters and 75 IL-28 jet light bombers, far superior to South Korea's 80 F86F jet fighter bombers and 80 transports and trainers.
 - B. North Korean heavy artillery outnumbers that of South Korea by two to one.
 - C. North Korean armored strength being improved.

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